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 Subject: Leaders Link From Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ  
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## SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

# SEC Leaders Link

## Transforming Churches, Transforming Lives

December/January 2009 Issue 6

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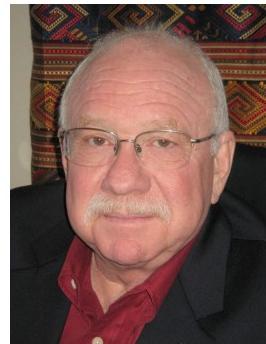
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Dear Mike,

As I have noted, we are beginning to send out the Leaders' Link for the Southeast Conference in two different formats. You have received the Resources Edition and now this edition, the News Edition, which will include news of ministers, congregations, associations, and of course the Conference. Each of these editions will be sent at different intervals throughout the year. You will receive the Resources Edition twice a month, the News Edition once a month and the Financial Edition at the end of each fiscal quarter. We hope you find this a more helpful way for us to be in touch. This Link and our Southeast Conference web site will increasingly be the primary way in which we communicate with you.



We hope that you will feel free to share this email or any of its content with others. If you coordinate communication for your congregation, we would be glad to have you share it with your whole church.

Please continue to share your news with us by sending it to me at [tdowns@secucc.org](mailto:tdowns@secucc.org). As Barbara Walters says at the end of a show "we are in touch, so you stay in touch!"

Peace,  
**Tim Downs**  
 Timothy C. Downs, Conference Minister

### Concerns and Celebrations

**Diantha Brown**, member of Pleasant Hill Community UCC, TN

has been called to serve as the pastor of **First United Church of Christ, Belvidere, TN**. She will be succeeding Dale Barrington. Diantha will begin in January once she has completed recovered from unanticipated back surgery which she had on November 17th.

**Ronnie Galvin**, member of Sankofa UCC, Atlanta, and student in care of the Georgia-South Carolina Association has been called forth to be the **Minister for Youth of First Congregational UCC, Atlanta**. He began the position on December 1st.



**Joe Ingle**, member of **Brookmeade Congregational UCC**, and called by the Southeast Conference UCC to a ministry on death row in the Nashville area was recently honored by his alma mater, St. Andrews' College, Laurinburg, NC, with a feature article on his ministry in their alumni magazine. Joe is one of the leading advocates against the death penalty in the United States.

**Heidi Schuler**, recently graduated from Candler School of Theology, was ordained and installed as Minister for Youth and Families at **Pilgrimage UCC, Marietta, GA**, on November 2nd.

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#### Conference News and Announcements

The **Southeast Conference** continues its exploration of the feasibility of a **capital campaign**, and has taken the next step of engaging in an Awareness/Education phase. This will involve five meetings across the conference at which a presentation will be made, and response sought from the ministers and leaders of the churches of the Conference. Those meetings have been scheduled on Saturday's beginning at 11:00A.



The schedule is as follows:

January 31, 2009	First Congregational UCC, Birmingham
February 28, 2009	Holy Trinity Community UCC, Nashville
March 14, 2009	Central Congregational UCC, Atlanta
March 28, 2009	Pilgrim Congregational UCC, Chattanooga
April 18, 2009	Midway Congregational UCC, Midway, GA

Following a presentation and discussion, lunch will be served. All ministers and leaders of the Conference are encouraged to attend. There will be no solicitation!

[Read more...](#)

#### News From Around the Conference

**Kirkwood United Church of Christ**, Atlanta, (pastor **Susannah Davis**), which began a little over two years ago in coffee shop, has continued to grow in members, and has just made its third move into the old Kirkwood Library.

Pleasant Hill Community UCC announced that it has sent 56 hygiene kits to Church World Service, an effort organized by Sharon Weible.



Many of those who heard Barack Obama's speech on the occasion of winning the presidential election recall the name **Ann Nixon Cooper** whose story he remembered in the speech. Ms. Cooper is a member of **First Congregational UCC**, Atlanta.

**First Church, Atlanta** also has been selected as a "**2008-2009 Mission Year Site**" by Volunteers in Mission of Wider Church Ministries, UCC. Three married couples are living the Vine City area of Atlanta, and will serve the communities around Washington High School and University Homes from September 2008-September 2009.

[Read more...](#)

There are many more resources to support your ministries on our Conference website. Call the Conference office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Rev. Dr. Timothy Downs  
*Conference Minister*  
Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ



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